

Requirements to Receive One of the Differentiated Diplomas or a Certificate of Completion Beginning with the Graduation Class of 2006

The Utah Basic Skills Competency Test (UBSCT) is mandated by the Utah Legislature in Utah Code. Specifically, Section 53A-1-611(2)(b) provides *“A student must pass the basic skills competency test, in addition to the established requirement of the state and local board of education of the district in which the student attends school, in order to receive a basic high school diploma of graduation.”* The law also provides in Section 53A-1-611(2)(d) *“A student who fails to pass all components of the test may not receive a basic high school diploma but may receive a certificate of completion or alternative completion diploma under rules made by the State Board of Education....”* For further clarification of the Utah State Board of Education Rule, please refer to UT Admin Code R277-7-5-4.

The UBSCT participation requirement for graduation is outlined below:

Differentiated Diplomas		Certificate
Basic High School Diploma	Alternative Completion Diploma	Certificate of Completion
Passed all subtests of UBSCT	Did not pass all subtests of the UBSCT, but <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided documentation of at least 3 attempts to take and pass all subtests of the UBSCT OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated, under an IEP, in the statewide assessment through the Utah Alternate Assessment (UAA) 	Lacked documentation of at least 3 attempts to take and pass all subtests of the UBSCT
AND	AND	AND/OR
Successfully completed all state and district course requirements for graduation	Successfully completed all state and district course requirements for graduation	Did not meet all state or district requirements for a diploma
		AND
		Completed senior year and is exiting the school system

The UBSCT includes three subtests: Reading, Mathematics, and Writing. To pass, students must achieve a score of 160 or higher on each subtest. Students are not required to retake individual subtests passed in previous administrations of the assessment.

- Students who have passed all three subtests by the end of their senior year, have satisfied the assessment requirement for a Basic High School Diploma.
- Students who have not passed one or more subtests by the end of their senior year, but can provide documentation of three attempts to take and pass all subtests, have satisfied the assessment requirement for an Alternative Completion Diploma.
- Students with disabilities, who are under an IEP and whose participation in statewide assessment is through the Utah Alternate Assessment (UAA), have satisfied the assessment requirement for an Alternative Completion Diploma and do not need to attempt or pass the UBSCT.
- Students who have not passed the test by the end of their senior year and cannot document three attempts to take and pass the UBSCT, have **not** satisfied the assessment requirement for either of the differentiated diplomas, but may qualify for a Certificate of Completion.
- An Alternative Completion Diploma or a Certificate of Completion may be converted to a Basic High School Diploma whenever the student completes all current state and district diploma requirements.
- It is a school district or school decision whether students who are awarded a Certificate of Completion may participate in graduation activities, including walking in the graduation ceremony. Section R277-705-8(B) provides *“A school district or school may determine criteria for a student’s participation in graduation activities and exercises, independent of a student’s receipt of a diploma.”*